

California Biodiversity Council

Wednesday, June 9, 1999

Ft. Bragg, California

California Biodiversity Council Field Trip

Meet at the Harbor Lite Lodge parking lot, 120 N. Harbor Drive, Ft. Bragg. If you are not staying at the lodge, please park on the street. Vans will be available for the field trip.

1:30 Leave Ft. Bragg and travel south on Hwy 1 to Cabrillo Point Lighthouse Project. Pass over the estuaries of Noyo River, Hare Creek, Mitchell Creek, Jug Handle Creek, and Caspar Creek. Travel by Caspar Headlands State Beach and Reserve, private homes built in the coastal zone, and areas considered for public acquisition, easements and/or local land trust management.

First stop: Point Cabrillo Project – Joint project of Coastal Conservancy and North Coast Interpretative Association (www.mcn.org/1/pointcabrillo/default.htm). Presentation and discussion of meshing goals and implementation of different programs for conservation and access: acquisition, coastal access as part of private property development, easements, local land trusts, and educational programs.

Travel to Jackson Demonstration State Forest

Second stop: Non-fish bearing intermittent stream surrounded by riparian forest managed to retain shade and multistory canopy. View current canopy, tree, and channel conditions. View current forest stands after three harvests (1900, 1968, and 1997).

Travel historic roads along South Fork of Noyo River. Consider long-term goals of reduced environmental impact while meeting cost-effectiveness and access criteria. Consider road maintenance, drainage, abandonment options. Observe DFG fish sampling site.

Third stop: Camp One, DFG Fish Hatchery – rest stop

Fourth stop: Parlin Creek - CDF and Department of Fish and Game (DFG) project to actively improve riparian conditions for salmonids. View examples of log stringer bridge removal and road abandonment. Discuss experiments and demonstration of active management to achieve: 1) sufficient shade, 2) more LWD in stream, 3) more deep pool development through hydraulic action of high stream flows, and 4) fewer fines by controlling road-related and land-management-related erosion. Observe storage and sorting of in-stream sediments, historic removal of LWD from streams, and different stream zone timber management approaches.

Return to Ft. Bragg on Hwy 20

5:45 p.m. Arrive Harbor Lite Lodge parking lot